Rec'd PCT/PT 0 JUN 2005

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



10/540090 540090

(43) International Publication Date 8 July 2004 (08.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/057311 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

G01N 19/02

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2003/005631

(22) International Filing Date:

19 December 2003 (19.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

0229795.0

20 December 2002 (20.12.2002) GF

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ROYAL MAIL GROUP PLC [GB/GB]; Royal Mail House, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ (GB).

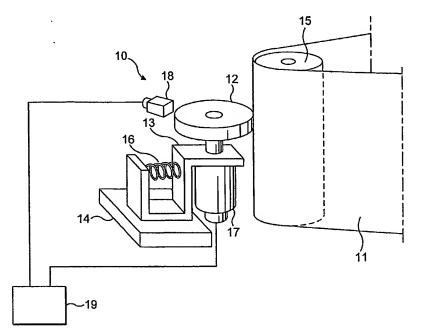
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): PARKIN, Robert [GB/GB]; Mechatronics Research Centre, Holywell Building, Holywell Way, Loughborough LE11 3UZ (GB). NOTINI, Luca [GB/GB]; Mechatronics Research Centre, Holywell Building, Holywell Way, Loughborough LE11 3UZ (GB).

- (74) Agents: TIMOTHY, Pendered, G. et al.; R G C Jenkins & Co, 26 Caxton Street, London SWIH ORJ (GB).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GO, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR FRICTION MEASUREMENT



(57) Abstract: A mechanism (10) for measuring the coefficient of friction of the surface of a belt (11) comprises a disc (12) rotatably mounted on a bracket (13). The disc is applied to the surface of the belt under the force of a spring (16) and is driven to rotate when the belt is in motion. Rotation of the disc is resisted by an electric motor (17). Movement of the disc is monitored by a sensor (18). Signals from the sensor are fed to a data processing unit (19) which controls the motor. The mechanism can be used to measure static or dynamic friction.

004/057311 A1 ||||||



## Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.